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PICTURESQUE ROCHESTER

A second competitive exhibition of sketches of Picturesque Rochester was held in the art gallery of the Mechanic's Institute the latter part of this winter. The object of these exhibitions is to interest the people in the picturesque features of their own city. More pictures were sent in this year than heretofore. The first prize was awarded to Colin Campbell Cooper and the second to Roy Hallings. Not only do the sketches shown in these exhibitions manifest picturesqueness which now exists, but in many instances demonstrate the possibility of picturesqueness through minor improvements. For example, the Main Street bridge over the Genesee River, which has been compared to the Ponte Vecchio in Florence, but fails to signify as a picturesque feature because of the ugly signs and lack of care by the owners of the buildings which are seen in the rear. Obviously, if these were done away with and a few plants put in the back windows, or if there was an opening cut through from Main Street with an arcade overlooking the river, the view would still have a characteristic charm and yet at the same time an orderly, dignified appearance. The kind of improvements that are desired are those which preserve the individuality of the place rather than destroy it. The artist's works strongly emphasize this fact.

The Picturesque Rochester exhibition was followed by exhibitions of Normal School Art Work, and of weavings, the latter lent by the Handicrafts Guild of Montreal, Canada.

NEWS ITEMS

The Philadelphia Water Color Club has been invited by the Art Institute of Chicago to send an exhibition of its members' works to the twenty-fourth annual exhibition of water colors to be held in Chicago from May 7th to June 5th. The invitation has been accepted and the Institute has set aside one gallery exclusively for this exhibit. At the annual

spring meeting of the Philadelphia Water Color Club the following officers were elected: President, George Walter Dawson; Vice-President, Blanche Dilaye; Treasurer, John Dull; Secretary, Thornton Oakley. The Club has become a chapter of the American Federation of Arts.

Frederic Allen Whiting, secretary and treasurer of the Society of Arts and Crafts of Boston, has been elected director of the John Herron Art Institute of Indianapolis and has accepted. He will enter upon his new duties about the first of May. Mr. Whiting's work in connection with the development of the arts and crafts movement in this country has been influential and effectual and he will take to his new field of activities the attributes and training which go far toward assuring success.

Under the auspices of the Minnesota State Art Society an exhibition of paintings and other works of art is set forth annually in four cities in Minnesota. This year St. Paul, Stillwater, Anoka and Duluth will have this exhibition which opens in the first on April 25th and closes in the last on June 16th. A group of thirty-five paintings, oils and water colors, has been secured through the American Federation of Arts. Among the artists represented will be John W. Alexander, J. Alden Weir, Emil Carlsen, Leonard Ochtman, Ben Foster, Irving Couse, Jonas Lie, Colin Campbell Cooper and W. Elmer Schofield.

The Pratt Institute holds regularly a succession of interesting exhibitions in its well-proportioned sky-lighted gallery from October to June. Among the most recent are an exhibition of oil paintings and water colors by F. Louis Mora, and of one hundred and ninety-five photographs of Colonial Architecture and related work. The Pratt Institute also sends out exhibitions—examples of students' work in design and color. One of these exhibitions has been shown in nine cities of California during the past winter.